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B Y - T A W S

OF

GRAVEL HILL LODGE,

NUMBER 232.



OF

Free and Accepted Masons.

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PUNY, TENN:

ISAAC W. NASH, PRINTER,

1861.



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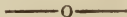
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PURDY, TENN:

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THE Undersigned Committee, appointed to draft a Code of By-Laws for the government of GRAVEL HILL LODGE, No. 232, beg leave respectfully to report and submit the following for adoption.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN N. BARNHILL,
ORVAL L. MEEKS, } Com.
L. M. HUGGINS.

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and Junior Wardens, Secretary, Treasurer, and Tyler, to be elected by the Lodge by ballot, and Senior and Junior Deacons, to be appointed by the Worshipful Master and S. W. immediately after the election.

SEC. 2. The W. M., and in his absence the S. W., and in the absence of both, then the J. W. shall have power to convene the Lodge at any time that it may be deemed necessary, but no business shall be transacted at a called meeting other than for which it was called.

SEC. 3. A majority of all the votes given, shall be required to constitute an election. No member shall be eligible to vote or hold office, unless he shall have been raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of each

member to serve in the station to which he may be chosen, unless he can give an excuse satisfactory to the Lodge; and in the case of a refusal, he shall be fined in an amount discretionary with the Lodge.

SEC. 5. The election of officers shall take place annually, at the stated meetings immediately preceeding the anniversary of St. John the Baptist, and they shall be installed at the anniversary meetings of the St. John, and shall hold their offices until the election and installation of their successors.

ARTICLE III.—*Duties of Officers.*

SEC. 1. The Worshipful Master, when present, shall preside at all meetings, and in his absence the S. W., and in the absence of both the W. M. and S. W., the J. W. shall preside.

SEC. 2. When the W. M., S. W. and J. W., are all absent, the Lodge shall have power to elect a W. M., pro tem, who shall have power to make pro tem appointments.

SEC. 3. The W. M. shall have the By-Laws read in the Lodge as often as he may deem necessary, and always on the application of a member to him for that purpose.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to report quarterly at the stated meetings in January, April, July and October, showing a statement of the funds of the Lodge in his hands, together with his receipts and disbursements, on account of the Lodge, since the preceding report, which shall be recorded by the Secretary.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Se-

cretary to keep a record of all the proceedings of the Lodge, to collect all monies that may become due, pay it to the Treasurer, and take his receipt for the same; to make a statement semi-annually at the stated meetings in January and July, and at such after times as he may be called upon, of his receipts and disbursements to the Treasurer; it shall be his further duty at each meeting, before entering upon any business, to read the minutes of the preceeding meeting, which shall be signed by the Worshipful Master presiding, and in consideration of his services, he shall be allowed fifty cents for each regular meeting.

SEC. 6. The Deacons shall assist the W. M. and S. W. in the performance of their duties.

SEC. 7. The Steward shall provide refreshments, and shall procure the necessary light, fuel, and such other things as may be ordered by the Lodge, and shall see that the regalia of the Lodge are in good order, and always ready for use.

SEC. 8. The Tyler shall faithfully Tyle the Lodge, go on messages, serve summonses, and keep the Lodge room in good order—for his services he shall receive the sum of fifty cents for each meeting, when found in the discharge of his duty.

ARTICLE IV.—*Initiation and Membership.*

SEC. 1. All petitions for initiations shall be signed by the party applying, and countersigned by two Master Masons, members of this Lodge, and shall be read

at a stated meeting of the Lodge, at which meeting the W. M. shall appoint a committee of two to enquire into the character and situation of the applicant, which committee shall report at the next stated meeting, and if the report be favorable, the candidate shall be ballotted for immediately, and if there be no dissenting vote, the W. M., shall declare the candidate duly elected; but if there should occur a dissenting vote, a second balloting shall immediately be had, and if there should still occur a dissenting vote, the candidate shall, by the W. M. be declared rejected.

SEC. 2. Every petition for initiation, shall be accompanied with the sum of ten dollars, and shall pay five for the second, and ten for the third, but in case

the candidate should be rejected, the brother recommending him shall procure the fee from the Secretary, and return the same to the candidate.

SEC. 3. Applications for initiation, and all rejections shall be kept secret, and no brother shall repeat or give currency to any objection that may be made by any brother to the admission of any candidate; any brother so offending, shall be liable to reprimand, suspension, or expulsion, at the discretion of the Lodge, and the petition of a rejected candidate shall not be again presented for initiation in less than twelve months, unless at the request of a member who voted to reject, and such request must be made in open Lodge.

SEC. 4. No brother shall recommend

or vouch for any person proposing to petition this Lodge for initiation or membership, where he knows or believes the petitioner to be an enemy to any member of the Lodge.

SEC. 5. No refreshments except water shall be used in the Lodge on Festival occasions, and in processions—Order, Harmony, and Temperance, are required, under the penalty of reproof, suspension, or expulsion.

SEC. 6. Should any member of this Lodge so far forget the moral obligations that he has voluntarily brought himself under, to abstain from all improprieties, as to become intoxicated, he shall for the first offense be reprimanded from the chair, and if he shall persist in so abandoned a course, a second time, he shall,

on motion, be suspended until he reform.

SEC. 7. Any person applying for membership, shall be ballotted for as in the case of a candidate for initiation, and if the candidate is elected, he shall pay the Secretary the fee of one dollar.

ARTICLE V.—*Dues, Expulsion and Susp'n.*

SEC. 1. Every member except those exempted, shall pay annually, the sum of two dollars, to be paid to the Secretary quarterly, at the stated meetings in January, April, July and October.

SEC. 2. Any brother whose conduct shall be unmasonic, and who shall refuse to reform upon reproof, or reprimand, shall by the vote of the majority present, be expelled or suspended during the pleasure of the Lodge.

SEC. 3. All members shall be exempt from the payment of quarterly dues for

one year from the time of his initiation.

ARTICLE VI.—*Committees.*

SEC. 1. In case of the death of a brother Master Mason, who is a member of this Lodge, leaving a widow, the Secretary shall enter her name upon a book to be kept for that purpose, and it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master, or such brother as he may appoint, to call upon her from time to time, to see that she does not suffer—to protect her from imposition, and to attend to any business for her, which her sex may incapacitate her from transacting. The Secretary shall in like manner record the names of the children of deceased Master Masons of this Lodge, and if they are in indigent circumstances, such assistance shall be rendered them as their necessities may

require, until they arrive at a proper age to enter upon some business, and be then assisted in obtaining proper situations.

SEC. 2. The Officers of this Lodge shall be a Standing Committee in its recess, to take cognizance of the misbehavior of its members out of the Lodge, and report accordingly, at its next stated meeting: to hear and settle disputes between its members, thereby cementing the Harmony and Brotherly Love, which ought to pervade the craft. To receive applications for charity, and as often as they think prudent, to afford a helping hand to the needy and distressed Mason, whose merit and necessity entitle him to relief, and said Committee are hereby authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the aforesaid, provided such draft shall not exceed the sum of five dollars for each applicant.

Rules of Order.

SEC. 1. The Worshipful Master may speak on points of order in preference to other members, and decide all questions of order, subject, however, to an appeal to the Lodge, from such decision, upon a second motion.

SEC. 2. When a member rises to speak, he shall respectfully address the Worshipful Master.

SEC. 3. No member shall speak more than twice upon any question without leave of the Lodge, nor more than once, without every member wishing to speak shall have been heard.

SEC. 4. Every motion shall be reduced to writing before debate, at the request of a member.

SEC. 5. When a question is under consideration no motion shall be received unless to amend, correct, postpone, call off, or close.

SEC. 6. When the Lodge shall have been opened, and the minutes of the preceeding meeting read, approved and signed, it shall be the duty of the W. M. to call for.—1st. Petitions.—2d. Reports from select committees.—3d. for Motions.

SEC. 7. On a motion to close or call off, there shall be no debate,

SEC. 8. All Committees shall be appointed by the Worshipful Master.

SEC. 9. Select Committees shall report at the time required by the order appointing them, unless for good reason the Lodge excuse them.

SEC. 10. All Committees shall report in writing.

ARTICLE VIII.—*Amendments.*

SEC. 1. These By-Laws shall be subject to amendments at any stated meeting, by the action of two thirds of the members.

SEC. 2. Each member and brother at his admission or raising shall be presented with a copy of these By-Laws.



